# Moving Health Care Providers into Action: the Role of Academic Detailing

Strategies to achieve patient-centered/evidencebased care

Sharm Steadman, PharmD, BCPS, FASHP, CDE Professor

Department of Family and Preventive Medicine USC School of Medicine

Sharm.steadman@uscmed.sc.edu

## **Objectives**

- Describe the role of academic detailing in improving patient outcomes through evidencebased drug-therapy decisions
  - Review clinical and economic impact of academic detailing programs
  - Describe the outreach efforts of South Carolina academic detailing service, SCORxE
- Discuss additional opportunities for pharmacists to impact patient outcomes as members of PCMH multidisciplinary teams

"Pharmaceuticals are the most common medical intervention, and their potential for both help and harm is enormous. Ensuring that the American people get the most benefit from advances in pharmacology is a critical component of improving the national health care system."

The Institute of Medicine (IOM)<sup>1</sup>

"Drugs Don't Work in People that Don't Take Them"
C. Everett Koop, MD
Former Surgeon General



## **Prescribing Factoids**

Four out of Five patients leave an office visit with at least one prescription

In 2004 average number of prescriptions written for people  $\geq$  65 years old during a physiciance visit was 1.7, for people 45-64 years old was 1.3, and for  $\leq$  44 years old the average prescriptions written was 1.

- "One-third of all American adults take 5 or more medications
- "Medicare beneficiaries with multiple illnesses:
  - "See an average of 13 different physicians
  - " Have 50 different prescriptions filled each year
  - " Account for 88% of all prescriptions filled



### **Antibiotic Prescribing**



- More than 160 million antibiotic prescriptions are written each year in US
  - 20-50% of these are unnecessary
  - Incidence of diarrhea: 1 in 4; incidence of rash: 1 in 50
- One in 4000 chance that an antibiotic will help most acute upper respiratory infections.
- One of every 1000 antibiotic prescriptions written will result in ED visit for adverse event
  - One in 5 ED visits for ADEs are due to antibiotics
    - 80% are allergic reactions



## **Prescribing in South Carolina**

 Average number of retail prescription drugs filled at a pharmacy per person in 2009 was 16.6, with a national average of 12 per person

 Average number of prescriptions drugs filled at a pharmacy per person in 2009, which

includes new and refills:

Age 0-18: 5.5 prescriptions

Age 19-64: 16 prescriptions

Age 65+: 39.2 prescriptions



# What factors influence prescribing of medications?





## **Factors that Influence Prescribing**

#### **Providers**

- Patient/family expectations
- Cost
- Evidence
- Clinical experience
- Recommendations from peers/specialists
- Samples
- Pharmaceutical marketing
- Practice setting
- Insurance coverage/copays
- 'Termination Strategy'

#### Patients

- Cost and availability
  - Formulary limits
- Expectations
- Direct to consumer advertising 'brand demand'
- Formulation/delivery system
- Side effects
- Internet and media
- Friends and family



# Principles of Conservative Prescribing

- Think beyond drugs
- More strategic prescribing
- Heightened adverse effects vigilance
- Caution and skepticism regarding new drugs
- Shared agenda with patients
- Weigh long-term, broader impacts



#### Caution and skepticism regarding new drugs

- Learn about new drugs and new indications from unbiased sources and from colleagues with reputations for conservative prescribing
- Do not rush to use new drugs, for new adverse effects often emerge later
- Be certain drugs improve clinical outcomes rather than solely modify a surrogate marker
- Do not stretch indications away from trial-based evidence
- Avoid seduction by elegant pharmacology or physiological mechanisms in the absence of demonstrated clinical outcomes benefit
- Beware of selective reporting or presentation of studies



## Strategies to Assist Patient-centered, Evidence-based Prescribing Practices

- Use of evidence-based information resources
- Developing process for evaluating new drugs
  - STEPS
- Establishing practice policies for more effective interactions with pharmaceutical industry
- Utilization of clinical pharmacists as members of patient care team
- Support of and interaction with Academic detailing resources



### **Academic Detailing**

- Improving precision and economy in the prescribing of drugs is a goal whose importance has increased with the proliferation of new and potent agents and with growing economic pressures to contain healthcare costs.
- Academically based "detailing" may represent a useful and cost-effective way to improve the quality of drug-therapy decisions and reduce unnecessary expenditures.

## What is Academic Detailing:

#### Social Marketing Approach to Behavior Change

- Assessment of motivation for current practice and barriers to change
- Developing programs for specific physician targets and opinion leaders
- Developing objectives
- Establishing credibility
- Encouraging physician participation
- Using concise educational materials
- Repeating key messages
- Providing reinforcement through subsequent visits





- Personalized support for improving knowledge and clinical decision-making through:
  - Periodic one-to-one encounters
    - To health care professionals in their own personal practice, time and space
    - From skilled health care professionals
    - Discussing topics of interest
    - Delivering clear messages which are relevant to the health care professionals own perceived needs. facilitating better patient care
    - Unbiased by commercial or other extraneous interests
  - Useful support services between visits





# Improving Drug-Therapy Decisions through Educational Outreach — A Randomized Controlled Trial of Academically Based Detailing

#### Primary Objective

Determine whether an office-based physician education program could reduce the excessive use of three drug groups: cerebral and peripheral vasodilators, an oral cephalosporin, and propoxyphene.

#### Methods

A four-state sample of 435 prescribers of these drugs was identified through Medicaid records and randomly assigned to one of three groups: mailed %madvertisements+, received personal educational visits by clinical pharmacists along with mailings, or control group.



# Improving Drug-Therapy Decisions through Educational Outreach — A Randomized Controlled Trial of Academically Based Detailing

#### Results

- Physicians who were offered personal educational visits by clinical pharmacists along with a series of mailed "unadvertisements" reduced their prescribing of the target drugs by 14 per cent as compared with controls (P = 0.0001).
- Comparable reduction in the number of dollars reimbursed for these drugs was also seen between the two groups, resulting in substantial cost savings.
  - No such change was seen in physicians who received mailed print materials only.
- The effect persisted for at least nine months after the start of the intervention,
- No significant increase in the use of expensive substitute drugs was found.

Avorn and Soumerai. New Eng J Med 1983;308:1457-63

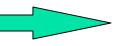


- Results Physician survey data showed that the percentage of hypertension visits where the physician recorded a thiazide-type diuretic increased the most in counties where academic detailing activity was the highest (an increase of 8.6%, from 37.9% to 46.5%) compared with counties where activity was moderate (an increase of 2%)
- Conclusions The ALLHAT/JNC7 Dissemination Project was associated with a small effect on thiazide-type diuretic use consistent with its small dose and the potential of external factors to diminish its impact. Academic detailing may increase physicians' implementation of clinical trial results, thereby making prescribing more consistent with evidence.

Arch Intern Med. 2010;170(10):851-858.

## Disseminating Information & Changing Provider Behavior

**Evidence** 



**Practice** 



Complete, scientific information, with scholarly independence and no commercial message

## **Academic Detailing**

The model of direct one-to-one salesmanship used by the pharmaceutical industry



User friendly, university-based educational outreach from trained clinicians

## **Academic Detailing**

Use of effective communication strategies through face-to-face visits that are brief, targeted and interactive





The academic detailing service offered by the South Carolina College of Pharmacy (SCCP) at the University of South Carolina and the Medical University of South Carolina through a grant from the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS)

Program Director Sarah Ball, PharmD balls@sccp.sc.edu



## Why SCORXE?

- The number of Medicaid prescriptions in South Carolina for selected disease states has increased without demonstrable improvement in the health of the patients
- Academic detailing is a research- and operationally-validated tool for achieving better value and better outcomes from medical care
- Research shows that interactive techniques such as academic detailing have more impact on prescribing habits than didactic presentations or mailings
- Economic analysis of the original US research which coined the term academic detailing found that for each \$1 spent on their academic detailing program \$2 was saved in Medicaid drug expenditures.<sup>1</sup>

Bloom BS. Effects of continuing medical education on improving physician clinical care and patient health; a review of systematic reviews. Int J Technol Assess Health Care 2005;21(3);380-385.

Orbrien MA, Rogers S, et al. Educational outreach visits: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes. Cochrane, Database of Systematic Reviews 2007, Issue 4.

1. Soumerai SB, Avorn, J. Economic and policy analysis of university-based drug %detailing+. Med Care 1986;24(4):313-331.



#### What is SCORxE?

- Academic detailing service dedicated to providing physicians with a balanced, evidence-based medication data resource
- Collaborative effort between SCDHHS and SCCP to improve the quality of care for SC Medicaid beneficiaries in the most cost effective manner
- Visits from trained clinical pharmacists to provide information on clinically relevant topics free from commercial influences
- Only state-sponsored initiative in SC to impact prescribing patterns for the treatment of mental health disorders
- Promotes best prescription decisions for all patients in terms of safety, efficacy, tolerability and cost, regardless of medication coverage plans

#### **Persuasive Communication Skills**

- Using key messageqabout a particular topic
  - 'Features' of key messages are interpreted so that they might become 'benefits' in the individual clinicians practice
  - 'Barriers' to buy-in are probed, understood and acknowledged: where possible 'enablers' are used to overcome barriers



## **SCORXE Topics**

- Disease Management (Mental Health as initial focus)
  - Schizophrenia / November 2007
  - Major Depressive Disorder / March 2008
  - Bipolar Disorder / April 2009
- Preventive Care Issues
  - Promotion of Smoking Cessation / November 2010
- Under development
  - ADHD (April 2011)
- Under consideration
  - Asthma
  - Pain management



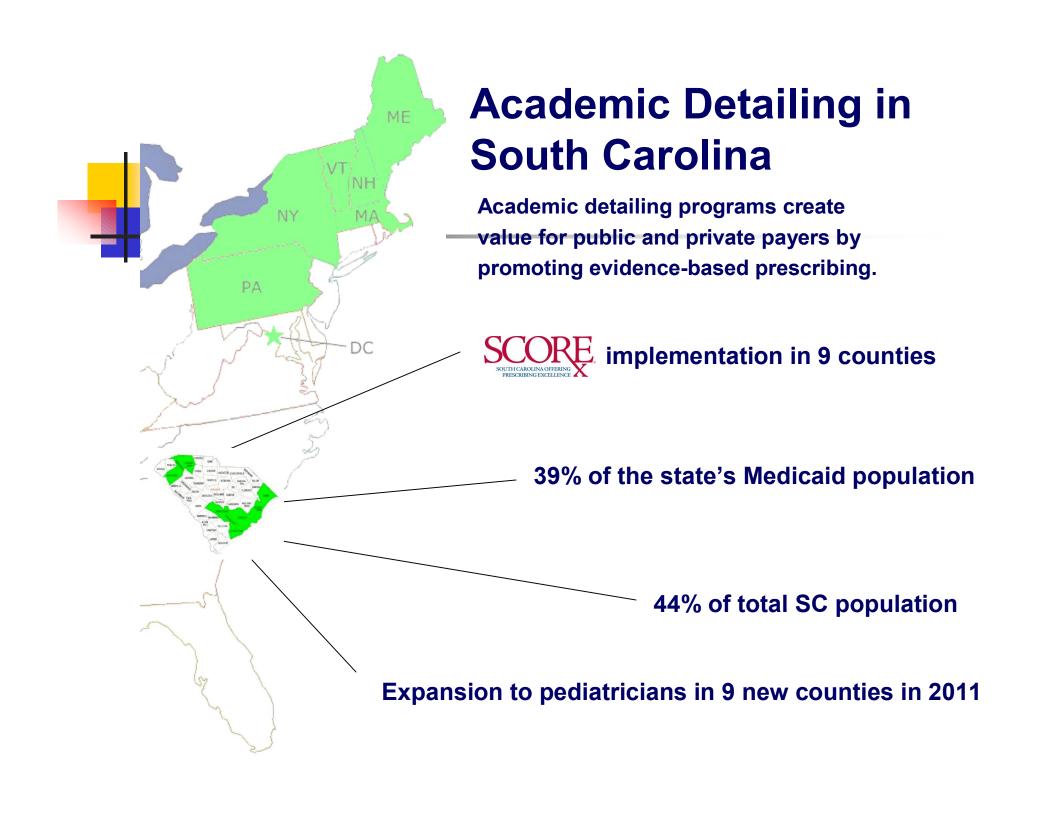


- Getting patients to their mental best results in improved quality of life for patients and their families and tremendous cost savings for the state
- Tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable morbidity and mortality in the U.S. and a physiciancs advice and intervention is powerful

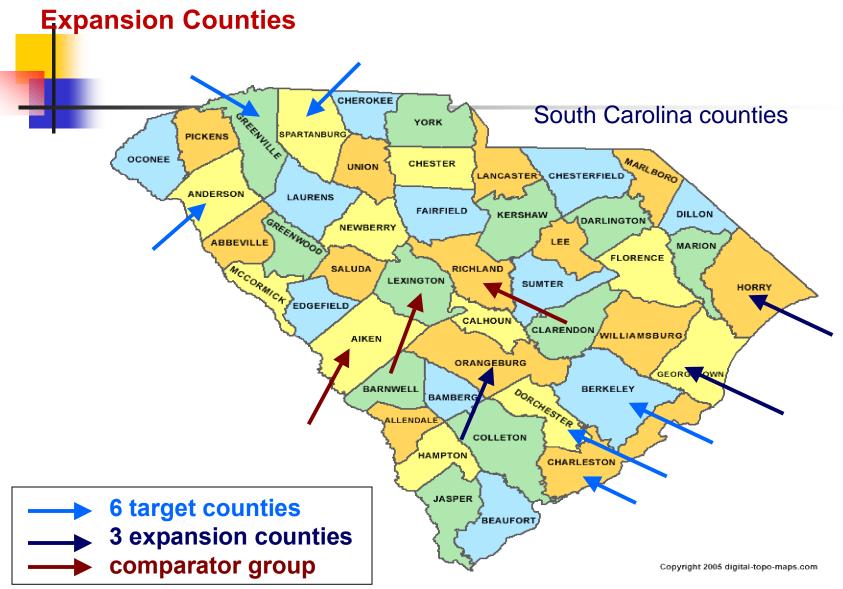


# SCORE SOUTH CAROLINA OFFERING SMOKING Cessation PRESCRIBING EXCELLENCE SMOKING CESSATION Key Messages

- Question and document tobacco use at every visit.
- Understand the challenge to quit and expect relapse.
- dentify readiness to quit to best tailor approach to patient.
- Treatment is effective and multiple options allow for individualized interventions.



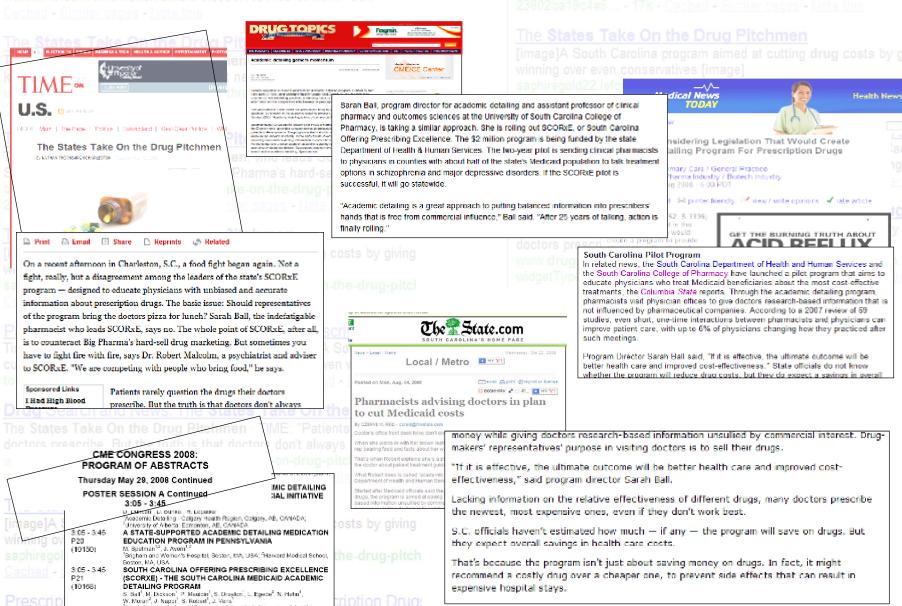
#### SCORxE Phase II Implementation





Illustrative Media Coverage

\*\*South Carolina College of Pharmacy, Columbia & Charleston, SC, USA; \*\*\*Noticeal University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, USA





# IDEA (Independent Drug Education and Outreach Act) 2009

- S.767 and HR 1859
  - Goal: send trained pharmacists, nurses and other health care professionals into prescribersqoffices to provide them with independent, evidence-based information on treatment options for various disease states
- Proposed Funding: grants and/or contracts through AHRQ
- Status: Not passed; cut from final health care bill

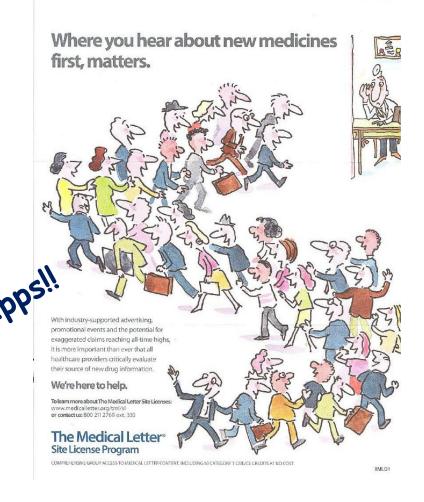


## Strategies to Assist Patient-centered, Evidence-based Prescribing Practices

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## **Evidence-based Resources for** Information on Medications

- PrescribersqLetter
  - www.prescribersletter.com
- Medical Letter and **Treatment Guidelines** 
  - www.medicalletter.org
- FDA Med Watch
- Now with Smartphone Apps!! www.fda.gov





## Is New Always Better?

- % Collow-on+ drugs
  - Armodafinil (Nuvigil®)
  - Dexlansoprazole (Dexilant®/Kapidex®)
  - Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq®)
  - Fenofibric acid (Trilipix®)
  - Fesoterodine (Toviaz®)

- Original Product
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
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## Is New Always Better?

- ‰ollow-on+drugs
  - Armodafinil (Nuvigil®)
  - Dexlansoprazole (Dexilant®/Kapidex®)
  - Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq®)
  - Fenofibric acid (Trilipix®)
  - Fesoterodine (Toviaz®)

- Original Product
  - Modafinil (Provigil®)
  - Lansoprazole (Prevacid®)
  - Venlafaxine (Effexor®)
  - Fenofibrate (Tricor®)
  - Fesoterodine (Detrol®)

## STEPS TO EVALUATE A NEW DRUG

- Safety
- Tolerability
- Efficacy
- Price
- Simplicity

STEPS columns found in American Family Physician <a href="https://www.aafp.org">www.aafp.org</a>



## STEPS example

### Saxagliptin (Onglyza) for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

Am FamPhysician. 2010 Jun 15;81(12):1483-1484.

#### Bottom Line

Saxagliptin lowers A1C levels to a lesser extent and is much more expensive than first-line therapy with metformin. Its ability to decrease diabetes-related complications, including mortality, is not known. It is a DPP-4 inhibitor that has a more significant drug interaction profile than sitagliptin and offers little cost advantage. For these reasons, saxagliptin should be reserved as an alternative therapy for patients who cannot tolerate other treatments for type 2 diabetes or in whom other treatments fail.+





## Tips for more useful interactions with Pharmaceutical representatives

- Card
- Contraindications
- Common side effects
- Clinically important drug interactions
- Cost to patient
- Clinical bottom line/outcomes data
- Can you leave some----?

Acknowledgements to SCFP pharmD colleagues



## Pharmacists as Members of Health Care Team

- Consider pharmacists as essential members of the health care team
- Establishing collaborative relationships with pharmacists can be key to achieving Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) designation



## **2011 PCMH Standards**

- PCMH 3 Plan and Manage Care
- PCMH 4 Provide Self-Care Support and Community Resources



## **2011 PCMH Standards**

### PCMH 3 Plan and Manage Care

- Implement evidence-based guidelines
- Identify high-risk patients
- Care management
- Medication management
- Use Electronic prescribing



## **PCMH3C Care Management**

- Conducts pre-visit preparations
- Collaborates with patient to develop care plan, including treatment goals
- Gives patient written care plan
- Assesses and addresses barriers to treatment goals
- Gives patient clinical summary at relevant visits
- Identifies patients who need more care management support
- Follows up with patients who have not kept important appointments



## **PCMH3D Medication Management**

- Reviews and reconciles medications for more than 50% of care transitions\*\* -CRITICAL FACTOR
- Reviews and reconciles medications for more than 80% of care transitions
- Provides information about new prescriptions to more than 80% of patients
- Assess patient understanding of medications for more than 50% of patients
- Assesses patient response to medication and barriers to adherence for more than 50% of patients
- Documents OTCs, herbal/supplements, for more than 50% of patients, with date of update



## **2011 PCMH Standards**

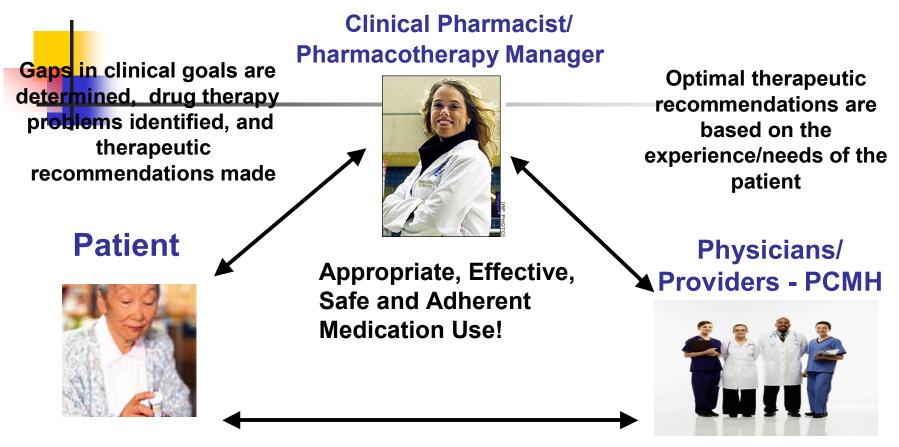
## PCMH 4 Provide Self-Care Support and Community Resources

- Support Self-care process
- Provide referrals to community resources

## PCMH4A Supports Self-Care Process

- Practice conducts activities to support patients in selfmanagement:
  - Provides education resources or refers at least 50% of patients to educational resources
  - Uses EHR to identify education resources and provide them to 10% of patients\*\*
  - Collaborates with at least 50% of patients to develop and document self-management plans and goals-CRITICAL FACTOR
  - Documents self-management abilities for at least 50% of patients
  - Provides self-management result recording tools to at least 50% of patients
  - Counsels at least 50% of patients on adopting health lifestyles

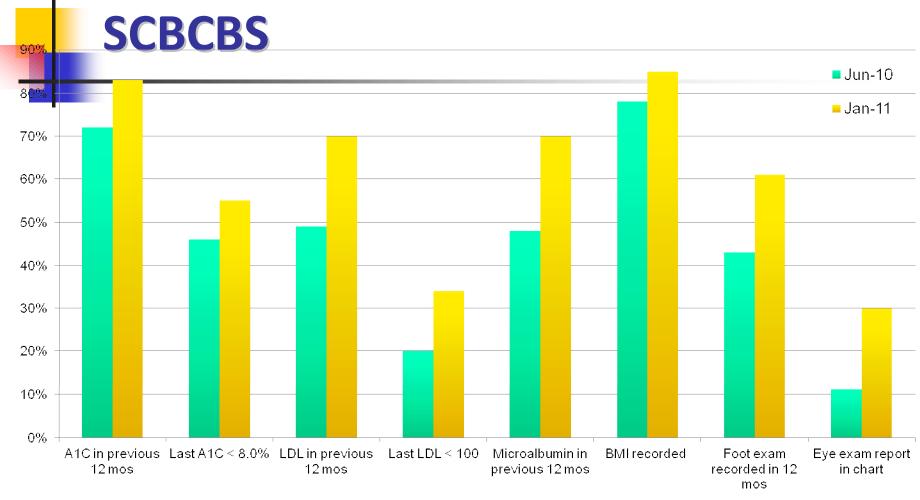
#### **Comprehensive Medication Management in the PCMH**



Patient understands his/her medications and participates in a care plan to improve health

Clinical goals of therapy are determined and medication recommendations are considered

## DFPM Demonstration Project with





# Payment for Medication Management Services

"The following recognize and are providing payment for the service:

- The Federal Government in Medicare Part D
- State Medicaid Governments (for example, Minnesota, North Dakota, New York,)
- Employers (e.g., General Mills)
- Commercial plans

#### "Mechanisms for Payment

- Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Codes for pharmacist-provided MTM services
- Evaluation and Management (E&M) CPT Codes
- Capitated Payment Methodologies
- Fee-for-service/Self-pay by patients

"Pharmaceuticals are the most common medical intervention, and their potential for both help and harm is enormous. Ensuring that the American people get the most benefit from advances in pharmacology is a critical component of improving the national health care system."

The Institute of Medicine (IOM)<sup>1</sup>

"Drugs Don't Work in People that Don't Take Them"
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Former Surgeon General

### References and Resources

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